

Throughout her career, Ms. Ostrow worked for the IRS, served as a legislative representative of the Federation of Federal Employees, and worked for the Communications Workers of America. In the late 1940s and 1950s, during the birth of rent control, Ms. Ostrow organized the group New Jersey Tenants for Rent Control and fought for tenants' rights for many years afterwards.

After moving to Burlington, Vermont in 1955, Ms. Ostrow became involved in numerous local liberal organizations, including the Vermont ACLU. After her husband's death in 1967, she moved to my district in New York City, where she became heavily involved in the NAACP, the ACLU, the Workers Defense League, and Americans for Democratic Action.

Even in her 80s, Ms. Ostrow was a tireless activist for the rights of the elderly, poor, oppressed, and otherwise downtrodden. She traveled to the New York State Capitol in Albany to lobby for tenant rights. She also staffed a homeless center and circulated political petitions.

A vibrant and caring woman who viewed public service in the same regard as Robert F. Kennedy—she “saw wrong and tried to right it.” I am confident that her legacy will continue through the many individuals she personally touched during her extraordinary life.

#### THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FEDERAL JUDGESHIP ACT OF 2001

#### HON. RANDY “DUKE” CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Southern California Federal Judgeship Act of 2001. I am proud to be joined in this effort by my colleagues from San Diego, Representative DUNCAN HUNTER, and Representative DARRELL ISSA. This important legislation will authorize eight additional federal district court judges, five permanent and three temporary, to the Southern District of California.

A recent judicial survey ranks the Southern District of California as the busiest court in the nation by number of criminal felony cases filed and total number of weighted cases per judge. In 1998, the Southern District had a weighted caseload of 1,006 cases per judge. By comparison, the Central District of California had a weighted filing of 424 cases per judge; the Eastern District of California had a weighted filing of 601 cases per judge; and the Northern District of California had a weighted filing of 464 cases per judge.

The Southern District consists of the San Diego and Imperial Counties of California, and shares a 200-mile border with Mexico. According to the U.S. Customs Service, as much as 33 percent of the illegal drugs and 50 percent of the cocaine smuggled into the United States from Mexico enters through this court district. Additionally, the court faces a substantial number of our nation's immigration cases. Further multiplying the district's caseload is an agreement between the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the State of California that calls for criminal aliens to be transferred to prison facilities in this district upon nearing the end of their state sentences. All these factors combine to create a tremendous need for additional district court judges.

I hope that all my colleagues will join those of us from San Diego and help the people of Southern California by authorizing additional district court judges for the Southern District of California.

#### TRIBUTE TO JUDGE NILDA MORALES HOROWITZ

#### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and to pay tribute to Nilda Morales Horowitz, and outstanding individual who has dedicated her life to public service. She was inducted on January 18 as a Family Court Judge for Westchester County in New York.

Mr. Speaker, from April 1998 until her recent appointment, Judge Horowitz served as deputy county attorney and family court bureau chief. She was in charge of and responsible for twenty-four attorneys who handled all matters before the Family Courts of Westchester County. She handled the daily review and assignment of all cases involving the Department of Social Services, such as the county's neglect and abuse referrals, and all juvenile delinquency referrals from the Department of Probation. She was also the supervisor of specialized Domestic Violence Unit within the Family Court Bureau.

Her distinguished career also includes service as a hearing examiner for the New York State Family Court, a Senior Law Judge and Supervising Judge for the New York State Workers' Compensation Board, and adjunct professor of Public Administration at Hostos Community College, and a lawyer in private practice specializing in public interest law.

Judge Horowitz is well known and highly respected by her peers and the different communities she has served for her sensitivity, professionalism, integrity and sound judgment. Her induction brings to the Court an outstanding judge.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Judge Nilda Morales Horowitz for her outstanding achievements and in wishing her continued success as Family Court Judge for Westchester County.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE POST- MASTERS FAIRNESS AND RIGHTS ACT OF 2001

#### HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today I support our nation's 28,000 Postmasters by introducing the Postmasters Fairness and Rights Act of 2001.

Under current law, Postmasters are denied the basic right to discuss fundamental issues which impact the quality of mail services provided to your constituents, the management of your local Post Office, and their own compensation. Postmasters suffer from a dysfunctional “consultation process” whereby Postal Headquarters may unilaterally mandate local Post Office operational changes.

The Postmasters Fairness and Rights Act of 2001 seeks to remedy this inequality by enabling Postmasters to take an active and constructive role in managing their Post Office and discussing compensation issues. If the Postmasters and Postal Headquarters are unable to reach an understanding, the Act provides for a neutral outside party to resolve the disagreement. If enacted, the Postmasters Fairness and Rights Act would foster better mail services by allowing Postmasters greater input in operational decision-making, improving Postmaster morale, and making it possible to attract and retain exemplary Postmasters.

This legislation had 238 cosponsors last year. With the support of my colleagues in the 107th Congress, we will be able to move this legislation and finally restore fairness to our nation's Postmasters.

#### HONORING MARILYN RIGG

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Eastern Madera County Chamber of Commerce President Marilyn Rigg for her years of dedicated service to the community.

Marilyn is a graduate of St. Aloysius Academy, the University of Ohio and the Stonier School of Banking, where her thesis was copyrighted and accepted for inclusion in the National Library.

Ms. Rigg taught school in Virginia for 2 years before moving to Oakhurst in 1970. Marilyn worked for 21 years at Security Pacific Bank, where she held numerous jobs, including branch manager, vice-president of planning and marketing, and vice-president of corporate lending. In 1992, she left Security Pacific to begin a State Farm Agency in Oakhurst.

Marilyn has served as a member and past president of Soroptimist International of the Sierra, chairman of the Oakhurst Fall Festival, chairman of “Oakhurst Goes to the Oscars,” and past board member and treasurer of the Eastern Madera County Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Marilyn Rigg for her active and distinguished community involvement. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Marilyn Rigg many more years of continued success.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY BURIAL BENEFIT

#### HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill that would expand eligibility for the Social Security burial benefit.

As you may be aware, prior to 1981, any individual could receive the burial benefit lump sum of \$255 in order to pay funeral expenses. Today, the surviving spouse receives a burial benefit only if the deceased spouse is insured by Social Security.